## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Sunao SAKAMOTO; Naoto KITAGAWA; Tomoaki

GOTO; Toshihisa TERAZAWA

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: December 10, 2001 Docket No.: 111090

For: DESIGNING METHOD AND DESIGN ASSIST SYSTEM

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. An English-language Abstract of the non-English language reference is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 10, 2001

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(Use several sheets if necessary)			APPLICANTS Sunao SAKAMOTO; Naoto KITAGAWA; Tomoaki GOTO; Toshihisa TERAZAWA				
		FILING Decemb	DATE er 10, 2001				
	U.S. P.	ATENT DOC	UMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUB CLASS	
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,	6,230,066 B1	05-08-2001	Sferro et al.				
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	JP 8-106494 A (w/abstract)	04-23-1996	Japan	<b></b> .			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
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